CH classes involve more than cooking

Students enrolled in Consumer and Homemaking classes at ACHS are involved in much more than cooking and sewing. Consumer and Homemaking II is a course offered to ninth and tenth graders as an elective. This course is a continuation of Home Economics I, taught at AMS on the eighth grade level. Experiences requiring more skills and knowledge are provided that indicate advanced levels in managing a home, constructing clothing, nutrition, homecare of the sick, and etiquette.

Specialized Consumer and Homemaking includes six semester courses that are taught on a rotational system. Last year students studied Food Management and Housing and Interior Design; this year, Marriage and the Family and Clothing Management are being taught; and next year, 1984-85 students will study Child Development and Home Management. Many students enroll in Specialized Consumer and Homemaking as sophomores and continue through their senior year, taking all six specialized areas.

Juniors and seniors at ACHS may enroll in a Family Living course included in the Consumer and Homemaking department. This course is designed as a one year class for students who have had little or no previous experiences in home economics. Emphasis is placed on a study of nutrition; planning, preparing and serving simple meals; construction of a simple garment; use, care and arrangement of household equipment and furnishings; and preparation for marriage and a family.

All Consumer and Homemaking courses are offered to both male and female students based on a philosophy that more and more men are sharing household responsibilities and need basic skills to be successful. Each home economics student is encouraged to be an active member of the high school FHA chapter. The Future Homemakers of America Chapter at ACHS has been recognized as outstanding in the state of Virginia. Monthly programs are held in the school auditorium that have included speakers on drug abuse prevention and aerobic exercising. Other programs feature "classroom quiz" games, "family fueds" between classes and fashion shows. The high school FHA chapter also participates in community service projects such as baking cookies for part of the Railroad Day activities, contributing to the Thanksgiving and Christmas baskets for the county welfare office and working with homes for the aged in our county.

Teachers for the Consumer and Homemaking II classes are Mrs. Tawanna Lee, Mrs. Patricia Rice, and Mrs. Betty Jo Smith. The Specialized Consumer and Homemaking classes and Family Living class are taught by Mrs. Smith.

TONJA BIGLOW AND CHRISTIE DOSS, students in Consumer and Homemaking I, learn how to use a microwave oven. Instruction in the consumer and homemaking classes trains students in the various aspects of consumer economics, as well as to prepare for homemaking in a rapidly moving technological age.

Students take Home Ec

Seventh grade students at Appomattox Middle School may choose to explore the subject of Home Economics for 18 weeks.

During this course students are given a feeling for what the Consumer and Homemaking courses, grades 8 - 12, will be like. They explore such areas as money management, energy conservation, foods and nutrition, sewing, time management, personal relationships and personal grooming.

Students are given the opportunity to practice and build skills in reading, writing, math and measurement, planning and organizing, and various hands-on skills such as sewing and cooking skills.

Students utilize the home economics department's cooking and sewing laboratories when involved in project work.

The course is taught by Mrs. Pat Rice, who holds a B.S. degree in Home Economics Education from Longwood College.

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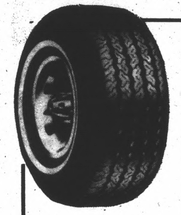

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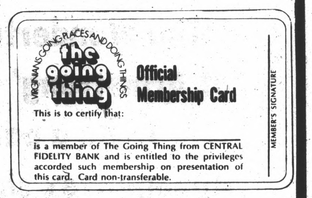

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FHA is extension of Home Ec classroom

Future Homemakers of America (FHA) is a co-curricular organization designed to be an extension of the home economics classroom and a laboratory for leadership development. The Appomattox Jr. FHA Chapter has a membership of 193 students this year. The chapter theme for 1983-84 is "Future Unknown - Dare To Determine Your Own". Members have been participating in a variety of activities related to FHA in preparing themselves for the future. They have been actively developing self-confidence, leadership skills, and comraderie by participating in activities such as exhibiting in the 5-county fair; (the members entered over 200 exhibits this year), intra-class and chapter competitions in the areas of prepared speeches, impromptu speeches, and spelling bees; and chapter programs in which they have written and presented skits of the chapter meetings.

Members are actively working towards raising money to help purchase chairs for the second floor room in the fine arts building so that chapter meetings as well as other school functions and assemblies can be held there. At the present time, the only meeting area we have is the school cafeteria which is too small to hold our entire membership. Chapter members have donated their time and efforts in carrying out such projects as preparing Christmas boxes for each faculty member at AMS. They have planned and prepared bulletin boards explaining FHA and national vocational education week. Approximately 100 chapter members are planning to attend a Federation meeting to be held at Altavista High School on February 23.

The Executive Council strives to set an example of good leadership and good student behavior to the chapter members as well as the rest of the school. The 1983-84 executive council members are: president-Amy Morris; 1st vice president-Susan Carnefix; 2nd vice president - Mary Beth Drinkard; secretary - Robin Martin; treasurer-Ruth Glover; reporter-Historian - Tammy Marsh; recreation leader - Stephanaie Fanney; and federation reporter - Beth Marston.

MRS. PATRICIA RICE (left), teacher of home economics at the middle school, is shown providing instruction to Chris Ransom, a seventh-grade student enrolled in exploratory home economics. This course is for both male and female students to introduce them to the many aspects of and careers in consumer and homemaking education.

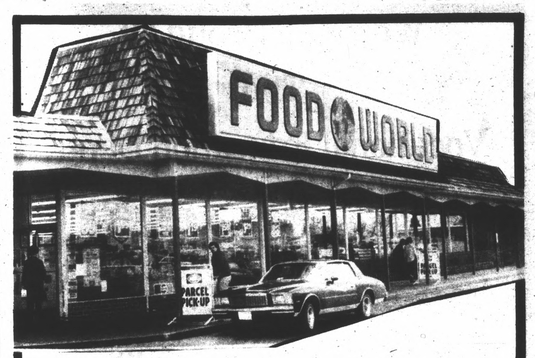
Shorthand still a marketable skill

Rumor has led people to believe that shorthand has become an obsolete skill due to modern technology. Contrary to this belief, area businesses are still hiring applicants who have successfully completed shorthand over those who do not possess the skill. Shorthand prepares a person in the following areas: communication skills, dictation, transcription, typewriting and listening. At ACHS Gregg shorthand is a one-hour course offered at the junior and senior levels. There are 20 students enrolled in the class. It is recommended that students who elect this course also enroll in Office Technology I and that the course completers enroll in word processing the following year. Typewriting is a prerequisite for this class.

Today's office workers must possess the skills that are taught in an office specialist class. Students who complete this one-year, double-period course at ACHS will have learned typewriting and communication skills, touch operation of electronic-printing calculators, records management, office careers orientation, job seeking and employability skills, receptionist duties, telephone skills and mailing services. The 17 students enrolled in this class will be advised to enroll in Office Specialist II their senior year. Typewriting I is a prerequisite for the class.

Office tech course hones skills

The 17 students enrolled in office technology, a one-hour course, will become proficient in the office-skills area. These students are also enrolled in shorthand, a requirement for the class. The areas they will develop include: typewriting and office procedures skills, operation of various office equipment, oral and written communications, records management, office careers and employability skills, receptionist duties, mailing services and telephone skills. Students who successfully complete shorthand and office technology are advised to enroll in word processing their senior year. Typewriting is a prerequisite for this course.



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